

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 5-11 are presently pending in this case. Claims 1, 5, and 7 are amended by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 5, and 7 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, the specification was objected to; Claims 5 and 7 were objected to; Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as unpatentable over Fleck et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,977,811, hereinafter "Fleck") in view of Goodman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,100,875, hereinafter "Goodman"); Claims 3 and 9 were rejected 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Fleck in view of Goodman and further in view of Boehme et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,512,670, hereinafter "Boehme"); and Claims 6 and 11 were rejected 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Fleck in view of Goodman and further in view of Bhatia (U.S. Patent No. 6,288,895).

The title of the present application is amended to recite "INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS INCLUDING A POINTER AND A CURSOR." Accordingly, the objection to the specification is believed to be overcome.

Claims 5 and 7 are amended to correct informalities. Accordingly, the objection to Claims 5 and 7 is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 as unpatentable over Fleck in view of Goodman, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part:

a display;
a main unit provided with a keyboard having a plurality
of operation keys including an enter key;

¹See, e.g., the specification at paragraphs 48, 49, and 58 and Figure 6.

a pointing device configured to move a pointer appearing on the display in a desired direction;
a plurality of cursor keys configured to move a cursor appearing on the display in predetermined directions, the cursor keys being arranged near the pointing device;
a confirmation button configured to confirm an item selected by said pointing device or said cursor keys, the confirmation button being positioned near said cursor keys; and
a switching button configured to rotate a display screen of said display by 90°,
wherein said pointing device, said plurality of cursor keys, and said confirmation button are positioned between said display and said keyboard.

Fleck describes a keyboard with a mouse for handheld portable computer. In each of Figures 1 and 8-10 of Fleck, the handheld computer is shown horizontally. In fact, Figures 8-10 of Fleck all show an image in the same orientation. Thus, none of the figures of Fleck show the display screen rotated by 90°. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Fleck does not describe a switching button configured to rotate a display screen of said display by 90°. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that Goodman does not teach or suggest this feature either. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that neither of Fleck or Goodman teach or suggest “a switching button” as defined in amended Claim 1. Consequently, Claim 1 (and Claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 dependent therefrom) is patentable over the cited references.

Amended Claim 7 recites in part:

a display;
a main unit provided with a keyboard having a plurality of operation means for inputting an operation command including enter means for inputting an enter command;
pointing means for moving a pointer appearing on the display in a desired direction;
cursor moving means for moving a cursor appearing on the display in predetermined directions, the cursor keys being arranged near the pointing device;
confirmation means for confirming an item selected by said pointing means or said cursor moving means, the confirmation means positioned near said cursor moving means;
and
switching means for rotating a display screen of said display by 90°,

wherein said pointing means, said cursor moving means, and said confirmation means are positioned between said display and said keyboard.

As noted above, none of the figures of Fleck show the display screen rotated by 90°. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Fleck does not describe any means for rotating a display screen of said display by 90°. Finally, it is respectfully submitted that Goodman does not teach or suggest this feature either. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that neither of Fleck or Goodman teach or suggest “switching means” as defined in amended Claim 7. Consequently, new Claim 7 (and Claims 8-11 dependent therefrom) is patentable over the cited references.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 3 and 9 as unpatentable over Fleck in view of Goodman and further in view of Boehme, it is noted that Claims 3 and 9 are dependent from Claims 1 and 7, respectively, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Boehme does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Fleck and Goodman. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 3 and 9 are patentable over Fleck in view of Goodman and further in view of Boehme.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 6 and 11 as unpatentable over Fleck in view of Goodman and further in view of Bhatia, it is noted that Claims 6 and 11 are dependent from Claims 1 and 7, respectively, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Bhatia does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Fleck and Goodman. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 6 and 11 are patentable over Fleck in view of Goodman and further in view of Bhatia.

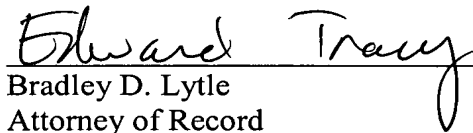
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Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bradley D. Lytle", is written over a horizontal line.

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